

Amendment for Application No.: 10/712869
Attorney Docket: CFA00018US

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 12, 18, and 20 as shown below in the Listing of Claims. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

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Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the apparatus comprising:
inputting means for inputting the original data and original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original;
modification means for generating modification information that indicates how to modify the original data to obtain modified original data;
storing means for storing the modification information;
modification-assuring-information creating means for creating, by using secret information, modification-assuring-information for assuring that the modification information is true~~detecting whether the modification information has been altered~~; and
outputting means for outputting the original data, the original-data assuring information, the modification information, and the modification-assuring-information.

2. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising determining means for determining whether the modification information is valid, wherein, when the determining means determines that the modification information is valid, the modification-assuring-information creating means creates the modification-assuring-information.

Claims 3-4 (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the modification-assuring-information and the original-data assuring information are digital signatures.

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6. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the modification information includes information for identifying the original data and information for identifying the modification process performed when the original data is modified.

7. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the modification information includes information for identifying the original data and includes difference information between the original data and the modified original data.

8. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the determination by the determining means is performed using pre-set access permission.

9. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the determination by the determining means is performed using a public key of the author of the original data.

Claims 10-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the apparatus comprising:

inputting means for inputting the original data, original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original, modification information that indicates how to modify the original data to obtain modified original data, and modification-assuring-information for ~~assuring that the modification information is true~~ detecting whether the modification information has been altered;

original-data verifying means for verifying, by the original-data assuring information, that the original data is assured as being an original;

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modification-information verifying means for verifying, by the modification-assuring-information and secret information, that modification information regarding a modification of the original data is assured as ~~being true~~ not having been altered; and

modifying means for modifying the original data in accordance with the modification information to obtain the modified original data when it is verified that the original data is assured as being an original and the modification information is assured as ~~being true~~ not having been altered.

Claim 13 (canceled)

14. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the original-data verifying means verifies a digital signature for the original data and the modification-information verifying means verifies a digital signature for the modification information.

15. (previously presented) A server that is connected with the information processing apparatus according to claim 1 over a network, wherein the server receives and manages the original data, the original-data assuring information, the modification information, and the modification-assuring-information from the information processing apparatus.

Claims 16-17 (canceled)

18. (currently amended) An information processing method for processing original data created by a predetermined author, the method comprising:
inputting the original data and original-data assuring information for assuring that the original data is an original;
generating modification information that indicates how to modify the original data to obtain modified original data;
storing the modification information;

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~~creating, by using secret information, modification-assuring-information for~~
~~assuring that the modification information is true~~~~detecting whether the modification~~
~~information has been altered; and~~

outputting the original data, the original-data assuring information, the
modification information, and the modification-assuring-information.

19. (original) The information processing method according to claim 18, further
comprising a determining step of determining whether the modification information is
valid, wherein, when the modification information is determined being valid in the
determining step, the modification assuring information is created in the modification-
assuring-information creating step.

20. (currently amended) An information processing method for processing
original data created by a predetermined author, the information processing method
comprising:

inputting the original data, original-data assuring information for assuring that the
original data is an original, modification information that indicates how to modify the
original data to obtain modified original data, and modification-assuring-information for
~~assuring that the modification information is true~~~~detecting whether the modification~~
~~information has been altered;~~

verifying, by the original-data assuring information, that the original data is
assured as being an original;

verifying, by the modification-assuring-information and secret information, that
modification information regarding a modification of the original data is assured as ~~being~~
~~true~~not having been altered; and

modifying the original data in accordance with the modification information to
obtain the modified original data when it is verified that the original data is assured as
being an original and the modification information is assured as ~~being true~~not having
been altered.

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21. (previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 20, wherein a digital signature for the original data is verified as part of verifying that the original data is assured as being an original and a digital signature for the modification information is verified as part of verifying that modification information regarding a modification of the original data is assured as being true.

22. (previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer program that executes the information processing method according to claim 18.

23 (canceled)

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the original data is stored in a file having a header, and wherein at least one of the modification information, the modification-assuring-information, and the original-data assuring information is stored in the header.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the original data is stored in a file having a header, and wherein at least one of the modification information, the modification-assuring-information, and the original-data assuring information is stored in the header.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the original data is stored in a file having a header, and wherein at least one of the modification information, the modification-assuring-information, and the original-data assuring information is stored in the header.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the original data is stored in a file having a header, and wherein at least one of the modification information, the modification-assuring-information, and the original-data assuring information is stored in the header.